Primary schools brought under operation black-board scheme

*234. SHRl SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary schools State-wise and the number of schools which have been brought under Operation Black-Board Scheme and Working a^ cordingly, in each State and Union Territory during the last three years and during the current year so far and also what is the expenditure incurred during each year on this account; and

(b) the estimated time-schedule Isy when Operation Black-Board would have covered aU the primary schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRl P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) The Scheme of Operation Blackboard was formulated in 1987-88. During 1987-88 and 1988-89 a total of 2,53,279 primary schools have been covered and Central assistance ot Rs_ 246.34 crores has been released to States and Union Territories. Statewise details of number of schools covered and amount released are given in the Annexure (See Appendix CLl, Annexure No. 110)

During 1989-90 so fa_r funds have not been released for new projects. The full amount sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh in 1989-90 could not be released owing to budgetary constraints. Hence the following amounts have been released in the current financial year to these States in fulfilment to last year's sanction.

	(Rs. in Iakhs)
Andhra Pradesh . .	408.77
Karnataka . . .	146.08
Orissa	296.86
Uttar Pradesh . . .	381.75

ln addition a_n amount of Rs. 32.39 lakhs sanctioned to Delhi ln 1987-88, which lapsed due to non-drawal, was re-sanctioned. Thus a total amount of R^s-1266.85 lakhs has been spent in the current financial year.

(b) Depending on the allocation ot - esources, it is expected that all primary schools would be covered in the next one or two years.

Growing demand for use of helicopters by Pawan Hans Limited

*235. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for use of helicopters by Pawan Hans Limited is growing and the corporation is not able to meet its demand; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRl SHIVRAJ PAUL): (a) and (b) The Pawan Hans Ltd. has been able to meet the growing volume of demand for helicopter service from the Oil Sector. The company has also plans to meet additional demand, if any, from this sector by redeploying its own fleet or resorting to helicopter leasing to the extent considered necessary.

Conversion of Manmad-Adilabad rail link from metre-gauge to broad-gauge

*236. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased te-state:

(a) whether there is any proposal fot the conversion of Manmad-Adilabad rail link from metre-gauge to broad-gauge by raising debentures from public;

(b) whether any metre-gauge section in Karnataka is also under consideration for conversion to broad-gauge by raising debentures; and